

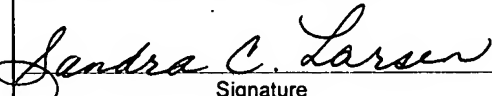


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March 12, 2004

FILE: 13002.0071.NPUS00

<b>CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</b>
NUMBER EL 831733161 US
DATE OF DEPOSIT 03/12/04
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA, 22313-1450.
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**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: FUNCTIONALIZED VEGETABLE OIL DERIVATIVES, LATEX COMPOSITIONS AND COATINGS – By Shelby F. Thames et al.*

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 24-page patent specification including 18 claims and an abstract. The specification constitutes the application of Shelby F. Thames, Oliver W. Smith, James M. Evans, Sandipan Dutta and Lianzhou Chen for the captioned invention.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors' Declaration and Assignment, a Power of Attorney, and filing fees. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants' representative.

Commissioner for Patents

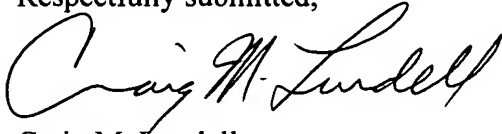
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Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Please forward any reply to this communication directly to our Houston office for docketing purposes. The mailing address and the physical address for courier packages is 750 Bering Drive, Houston, Texas, 77057-2198, and the Houston fax number is 713.787.1440.

Respectfully submitted,



Craig M. Lundell

Reg. No. 30,284

CML:scl

Encl: